Java Object-Oriented Programming Concepts

1. Encapsulation

Encapsulation is the bundling of data (variables) and methods that operate on that data within a single unit (class), while restricting direct access to some components.

Key Features:

- Data Hiding: Private variables cannot be accessed directly from outside the class
- Controlled Access: Public methods (getters/setters) provide controlled access to private data
- Security: Prevents unauthorized access and modification of data

Example:

```
java
public class Student {
  private String name;
                          // Private data
  private int age; // Private data
  // Public getter methods
  public String getName() {
     return name;
  public int getAge() {
     return age;
  // Public setter methods with validation
  public void setName(String name) {
     if (name != null && !name.trim().isEmpty()) {
       this.name = name;
  public void setAge(int age) {
     if (age > 0 && age < 120) {
       this.age = age;
```

2. Abstraction

Abstraction hides implementation details and shows only essential features of an object to the user.

Types of Abstraction:

- 1. Abstract Classes: Cannot be instantiated, may contain abstract and concrete methods
- 2. **Interfaces**: Pure abstraction, only method signatures (until Java 8)

Abstract Class Example:

```
java
abstract class Shape {
  protected String color;
  // Concrete method
  public void setColor(String color) {
     this.color = color;
  // Abstract method - must be implemented by subclasses
  public abstract double calculateArea();
  public abstract void draw();
class Circle extends Shape {
  private double radius;
  public Circle(double radius) {
     this.radius = radius;
  @Override
  public double calculateArea() {
     return Math.PI * radius * radius;
  @Override
  public void draw() {
     System.out.println("Drawing a circle with area: " + calculateArea());
```

Interface Example:

3. Inheritance

Inheritance allows a class to inherit properties and methods from another class, promoting code reusability.

Types:

- Single Inheritance: One class extends another class
- Multilevel Inheritance: A class extends a class that extends another class
- Hierarchical Inheritance: Multiple classes extend the same parent class

Example:



```
// Parent class (Superclass)
class Vehicle {
  protected String brand;
  protected int speed;
  public Vehicle(String brand) {
     this.brand = brand;
  public void start() {
     System.out.println(brand + " is starting...");
  public void stop() {
     System.out.println(brand + " is stopping...");
// Child class (Subclass)
class Car extends Vehicle {
  private int doors;
  public Car(String brand, int doors) {
                     // Call parent constructor
     super(brand);
     this.doors = doors;
  public void honk() {
     System.out.println(brand + " car is honking!");
  @Override
  public void start() {
     System.out.println("Car " + brand + " is starting with key...");
```

4. Multiple Inheritance

Java doesn't support multiple inheritance of classes but supports it through interfaces.

Why Multiple Inheritance of Classes is Not Allowed:

- Diamond Problem: Ambiguity when two parent classes have the same method
- Complexity: Makes the language more complex

Multiple Inheritance through Interfaces:

```
java
interface Flyable {
  void fly();
  default void takeOff() {
     System.out.println("Taking off...");
interface Swimmable {
  void swim();
  default void dive() {
     System.out.println("Diving...");
class Duck implements Flyable, Swimmable {
  @Override
  public void fly() {
     System.out.println("Duck is flying");
  @Override
  public void swim() {
     System.out.println("Duck is swimming");
```

Diamond Problem with Interfaces (Java 8+ Solution):

```
java
```

5. this and super Keywords

this Keyword:

Refers to the current instance of the class.

Uses of this:

- 1. Distinguish instance variables from parameters
- 2. Call other constructors in the same class
- 3. Pass current object as parameter
- 4. Return current object



```
class Person {
  private String name;
  private int age;
  public Person() {
     this("Unknown", 0); // Call parameterized constructor
  public Person(String name, int age) {
    this.name = name;
                         // Distinguish instance variable from parameter
    this.age = age;
  public Person setName(String name) {
    this.name = name;
                      // Return current object for method chaining
    return this:
  public void display() {
     System.out.println("Name: " + this.name + ", Age: " + this.age);
  public void compare(Person other) {
    if (this.age > other.age) {
       System.out.println(this.name + " is older");
```

super Keyword:

Refers to the immediate parent class instance.

Uses of super:

- 1. Call parent class constructor
- 2. Access parent class methods
- 3. Access parent class variables

```
java
```

```
class Animal {
  protected String name;
  public Animal(String name) {
     this.name = name:
  public void makeSound() {
     System.out.println("Animal makes a sound");
class Dog extends Animal {
  private String breed;
  public Dog(String name, String breed) {
     super(name);
                      // Call parent constructor
     this.breed = breed;
  @Override
  public void makeSound() {
     super.makeSound(); // Call parent method
     System.out.println("Dog barks");
  public void display() {
     System.out.println("Name: " + super.name + ", Breed: " + this.breed);
```

6. Access Modifiers

Control the visibility and accessibility of classes, methods, and variables.

Types:

- 1. **public**: Accessible from anywhere
- 2. protected: Accessible within package and subclasses
- 3. **default** (package-private): Accessible within the same package
- 4. private: Accessible only within the same class

Access Modifier Table:

Modifier	Same Class	Same Package	Subclass	Different Package
public	✓	✓	✓	✓
protected	✓	✓	✓	Х
default	✓	✓	Х	Х
private	✓	Х	Χ	Х
4	•	'	•	•

Example:

7. Dynamic Method Dispatch (Runtime Polymorphism)

The process of calling an overridden method at runtime rather than compile time.

Key Concepts:

- Method Overriding: Subclass provides specific implementation of parent class method
- Late Binding: Method to be called is determined at runtime
- Virtual Methods: All non-static, non-final, non-private methods in Java are virtual

Example:

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	java	
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```
class Animal {
  public void makeSound() {
    System.out.println("Animal makes a sound");
  public void sleep() {
    System.out.println("Animal sleeps");
class Dog extends Animal {
  @Override
  public void makeSound() {
    System.out.println("Dog barks");
class Cat extends Animal {
  @Override
  public void makeSound() {
    System.out.println("Cat meows");
public class DynamicDispatchExample {
  public static void main(String[] args) {
    Animal animal; // Reference variable of type Animal
    animal = new Dog();
                           // Object of Dog
    animal.makeSound();
                            // Calls Dog's makeSound() - Dynamic dispatch
    animal = new Cat();
                            // Object of Cat
    animal.makeSound();
                            // Calls Cat's makeSound() - Dynamic dispatch
    // The method called depends on the actual object type, not reference type
```

Rules for Dynamic Method Dispatch:

- 1. Reference type determines which methods can be called
- 2. Object type determines which implementation is executed
- 3. Only overridden methods participate in dynamic dispatch
- 4. Static, private, and final methods use static binding

Advanced Example:

```
java
class Shape {
  public void draw() {
     System.out.println("Drawing a shape");
  public void calculateArea() {
     System.out.println("Calculating area of shape");
class Circle extends Shape {
  @Override
  public void draw() {
     System.out.println("Drawing a circle");
  @Override
  public void calculateArea() {
     System.out.println("Area = \pi \times radius^2");
  public void roll() {
     System.out.println("Circle is rolling");
public class PolymorphismDemo {
  public static void main(String[] args) {
     Shape[] shapes = {
       new Circle(),
       new Shape(),
       new Circle()
     for (Shape shape : shapes) {
       shape.draw();
                          // Dynamic dispatch
       shape.calculateArea(); // Dynamic dispatch
       // shape.roll(); // Compilation error - roll() not in Shape
```

Key Points to Remember:

- 1. Encapsulation provides data security and controlled access
- 2. Abstraction hides complexity and shows only essential features
- 3. Inheritance promotes code reusability and establishes IS-A relationship
- 4. Multiple inheritance is achieved through interfaces in Java
- 5. this refers to current object, super refers to parent class
- 6. Access modifiers control visibility and encapsulation
- 7. **Dynamic method dispatch** enables runtime polymorphism and flexible code design

These concepts work together to make Java a powerful object-oriented programming language that promotes modularity, reusability, and maintainability.